

Hello –

I would like to state my position on the proposed mandatory helmet law that is being considered for Connecticut motorcyclists.

As a lifetime CT resident, and avid motorcycle rider for 40+ years, I have always worn my helmet. On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 I was very thankful I did. I was involved in a head-on crash while riding with a car that drifted into my lane around a corner. Upon impact, I was ejected from my motorcycle, flying over 25 feet in the air, with my head hitting the top of the car on the way over it. I am an ATGATT (All The Gear All The Time) rider and my helmet saved me from cranial injuries I surely would have suffered in this crash, and my other gear saved me from a traumatic amputation of my left foot/leg which was also seriously injured.

Thanks to my gear, I am alive and remain a productive member of society and not a burden to those I love. I will continue to encourage every rider I know to do the right thing for themselves and those who care about them – to gear up and increase their chance to successfully survive an accident. Motorcyclists do not have a cage around them for protection like automobile drivers – but even auto drivers are required to wear seatbelts by law – and for good reason!

Please consider making the courageous decision to stand up for the safety of riders – a mandatory helmet law will save lives, and money that would have otherwise been spent on the care of those with traumatic brain injuries that will last the rest of their lifetimes as they become a financial burden to the State and society due to increased costs for their care.

Thank you for your consideration,

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